GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4537
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2003
ACCOUNTABILITY AMONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY;RAGHUNATH JHA;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make the senior Government officials accountable for the errors of omission, commission and corruption committed by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to inculcate the sense of accountability among the Government officials to improve the governance; and

(d) the success achieved as a result thereof so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERS(PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS. (SHRI HARIN PATHAK)

(a) & (b): The conduct rules and regulations which apply to all Government officials require them to maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty at all time. For dereliction of duty or for corruption, action is taken by Government against officials in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations.

(c) & (d): The Government has introduced checks and balances for bringing more accountability and ensuring efficiency to improve the governance. The Secretary of each Departmentassisted by Chief Vigilance Officer has been made responsible for ensuring probity and integrity in his Department. Government have also taken several measures to ensure transparency which aims in bringing in more accountability such as setting up of 90 Facilitation Centre, as on 1.12.2002 in various Ministries/Departments/Organizations to provide information and assistance to the public regarding schemes and procedures of the organizations concerned. Also 71 Central Government organizations have published Citizens` Charter reflecting the commitment of the concerned Ministries, Departments or agencies to provide services within the time frame specified. Some Ministries and Departments have also developed there own web sites for promotion of e-governance. The Freedom of Information Act, 2002 has also been enacted for ensuring greater transparency, openness and accountability in the functioning of the public authorities.